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PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

(Small Entity)

 Docket No.
FTI "AG"

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith for filing under 35 U.S.C. 111 and 37 C.F.R. 1.53 is the patent application of:

William A. Skinner et al.

For: **DOUBLE FLANGED BUSHINGS AND INSTALLATION METHODS**

Enclosed are:

☒ Certificate of Mailing with Express Mail Mailing Label No. **EJ571520745US**☒ 6 sheets of drawings.☐ A certified copy of a _____ application.☒ Declaration ☐ Signed. ☒ Unsigned.☒ Power of Attorney☐ Information Disclosure Statement☐ Preliminary Amendment☒ Two Verified Statement(s) to Establish Small Entity Status Under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27.☐ Other:**"Express Mail" mailing label number**Date of Deposit **6/26/00**

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Stephen S. Turner
Signature

CLAIMS AS FILED

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Total Claims	20	- 20 =	0	x \$9.00	\$0.00
Indep. Claims	5	- 3 =	2	x \$39.00	\$78.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
BASIC FEE					\$380.00
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- ☒ A check in the amount of **\$458.00** to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
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Dated: **June 26, 2000**

Delbert J. Barnard
Signature
Delbert J. Barnard, Reg. No. 20,515
Barnard & Pauly, P.S.
P.O. Box 58888
Seattle, WA 98138-1888
(206) 246-0568

CC:

STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(b))--INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

Docket Number (Optional)
FTI "AG"

Applicant, Patentee, or Identifier: William A. Skinner et al.

Application or Patent No.: _____

Filed or Issued: _____

Title: DOUBLE FLANGED BUSHINGS AND INSTALLATION METHODS

As a below named inventor, I hereby state that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.
☐ the application identified above.
☐ the patent identified above.

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed, and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern, or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☐ No such person, concern, or organization exists.
☒ Each such person, concern, or organization is listed below.

Fatigue Technology, Inc.
100 Andover Park West
Seattle, WA 98108

Separate statements are required from each named person, concern, or organization having rights to the invention stating their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

William A. Skinner
NAME OF INVENTOR

Jude H. Resis
NAME OF INVENTOR

Mark Weiss
NAME OF INVENTOR

Signature of inventor

Signature of inventor

Signature of inventor

Date

Date

Date

Docket No.
FTI "AG"

Issue Date

Invention: **DOUBLE FLANGED BUSHINGS AND INSTALLATION METHODS**

☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below:

☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

ADDRESS OF CONCERN: 100 Andover Park West, Seattle, WA 98188

I hereby declare that the above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 13 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the above identified invention described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.
- ☐ the application identified above.
- ☐ the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above-identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed on the next page and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

- ☒ no such person, concern or organization exists.
☐ each such person, concern or organization is listed below.

FULL NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____

☐ Individual ☐ Small Business Concern ☐ Nonprofit Organization

Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING: Bruce F. Gibson

TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING _____

OTHER THAN OWNER: Vice President

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING: Fatigue Technology, Inc.

100 Andover Park West

Seattle, WA 98188

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Description

DOUBLE FLANGED BUSHINGS AND INSTALLATION METHODS

Technical Field

5 The present invention relates to the provision and
installation of tubular bushings in openings in work members.
More particularly, it relates to the provision of bushings
having flanges at both ends and to methods of radially
expanding tubular portions of the bushings to create a tight
10 interference fit between them and the openings in the work
member.

Background of the Invention

15 It is known to secure a bushing within an opening in a
structural wall by positioning the bushing within the opening,
holding it in place, and then forcing an expansion mandrel
through the bushing to radially expand the bushing into an
interference fit with the opening.

20 U.S. Patent No. 4,809,420, granted March 7, 1989, to
Michael A. Landy, Todd L. Thompson and Larry I. Wiemann, and
U.S. Patent No. 5,433,100, granted July 18, 1995, to Eric T.
Easterbrook, Todd L. Thompson and Mark R. Weiss, both disclose
the use of a mandrel alone for installing bushings in openings
in a work member.

25 U.S. Patent No. 4,557,033, granted December 10, 1985, to
Robert L. Champoux, discloses using a mandrel alone for cold
expanding an opening in a work member for the purpose of
introducing fatigue life enhancing compressive residual
stresses in the work member immediately around the opening in
the work member.

30 U.S. Patent No. 5,103,548, granted April 14, 1992, to
Leonard F. Reid and Roger T. Dolstad discloses the use of a
mandrel and a split sleeve together for installing a tubular
bushing in an opening in a work member and at the same time
introducing fatigue life enhancing compressive residual
35 stresses in the work member.

The contents of U.S. Patents Nos. 4,557,033; 4,809,420 and 5,103,548 are hereby incorporated herein by this specific reference.

U.S. Patent No. 3,835,688, granted September 17, 1974, to John O. King, Jr. and U.S. Patent No. 3,949,535, granted April 13, 1976, also to John O. King, Jr. each discloses a method of both installing a seamless tubular member in openings in two members to be joined and expanding the material immediately surrounding the openings for the purposes of fatigue life enhancement. The seamless tubular members disclosed by these patents have a flange at one end that contacts the side of one of the members from which the tubular member is inserted. Patent No. 3,949,535 discloses providing a flare on the end of the sleeve opposite the flange to assist in retaining the sleeve in the opening in the workpiece. This flare is formed by the movement of the mandrel through the sleeve and it requires a particular end construction of the sleeve.

Thus, it is known to provide a bushing with a radial flange at one of its ends. There is a need for providing a bushing that has a radial flange at each of its ends. For example, when bushings are used in a lug or clevis, there is a potential of face-to-face contact between the joined parts. Flanges on both ends of the bushing would protect the face-to-face contact of the parent material in which the bushing has been installed. The flanges could be used to react a load applied to the lug or clevis along a line parallel to the bore of the lug or clevis. For example, in a landing gear lug on an aircraft, the lug might see a load transmitted to the pin through the lug perpendicular to the axis of the bore, due to the weight of the aircraft. However, it could also see an axial load due to the fore and aft loading of the lug. A second flange on a bushing could also be used to provide a surface on which a nut and washer may seat when a threaded pin is used to retain the pin in the joint. The principal object of the present invention is to provide tubular bushings having flanges at both of their ends. Another object is to provide methods of making and installing tubular bushings that have flanges at both ends.

U.S. Patents Nos. 3,835,688 and 3,949,535, and the other above-identified patents should be carefully considered for the purpose of putting the present invention into proper prospective relative to the prior art.

Brief Summary of the Invention

According to the present invention, a workpiece is provided that includes first and second sides and a cylindrical opening extending through it between the two sides. A bushing is provided that includes a tubular center portion that is placed within the cylindrical opening. A first radial flange is connected to the tubular center portion of the bushing on the first side of the work member. This flange extends radially outwardly from the tubular center portion of the bushing, in contact with the first side of the work member. A second radial flange is connected to the tubular center portion of the bushing on the second side of the work member. This second radial bushing extends radially outwardly from the tubular center portion of the bushing, in contact with the second side of the work member. The tubular center portion of the bushing is radially expanded in the cylindrical opening to such an extent that it makes a tight interference fit within the opening and connects the bushing to the work member.

According to one aspect of the invention, the tubular center portion of the bushing is a single continuous tubular member that is connected at one end to the first flange and which includes a second end portion that extends axially outwardly beyond the second side of the work member. The second flange is a radial member having a center opening in which the projecting end portion of the tubular member is received. The tubular member is radially expanded in the center opening of the second flange to such an extent that it makes a tight interference fit with the opening in the second flange and connects the second flange to the tubular member.

According to another aspect of the invention, the bushing is composed of a first bushing part that includes the first flange and a first tubular member that is connected to the first flange, and a second bushing part that includes the

second flange and a second tubular member that is connected to the second flange. The two tubular members together form at least a part of the central portion of the bushing. The first tubular member may extend substantially completely through the opening and the second tubular member may be positioned in the first tubular member and extends substantially completely through it. The two tubular members are concentric. The radial expansion connects the first tubular member to the sidewall of the opening and connects the second tubular member to the first tubular member.

According to another aspect of the invention, the first tubular member extends axially from a first flange into and partially through the cylindrical opening in the work member. The second tubular member extends from the second flange into and partially through the opening in the work member, coaxial with the first tubular member. The outside diameters of the tubular members may be close in size to the inside diameter of the opening, so that when radially expanded, the two tubular members make a tight interference fit with the opening in the work member. Or, the first and second tubular members may be surrounded by a third tubular member, in which case the radial expansion connects the first tubular member to the sidewall of the opening in the work member and connects the second and third tubular members of the bushing parts to the first tubular member. That is, the third tubular member makes a tight interference fit with the cylindrical opening in the work member and the second and third tubular members make tight interference fits with the first tubular member.

The present invention also includes methods for installing double flanged bushings in openings in work members. According to a first method aspect of the invention, a work member is provided that has a first side and an opposite second side. A cylindrical through opening is provided in the work member, extending from the first side to the second side. A first bushing part is provided that has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of the tubular section. The tubular section has an outside diameter substantially

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corresponding to the diameter of the through opening in the work member. The tubular section of the first bushing part is inserted into and through the opening in the work member, from the first side of the work member. The first bushing part is moved axially to place its flanged section against the first side of the work member. The tubular section of the first bushing part is of such a length that when the flange section is against the first side of the work member, the tubular section has an end portion opposite the flanged section that projects axially outwardly of the opening, beyond the second side of the work member. A second bushing part includes a center opening that is sized to receive the projecting end portion of the tubular section of the first bushing part. The second bushing part extends radially outwardly from this center opening. The second bushing part is positioned on the projecting end portion of the tubular section of the first bushing part and is moved substantially against the second side of the work member. Then, the tubular section of the first bushing member is radially and circumferentially expanded an amount sufficient to provide a tight interference fit between it and the through opening in the work member and between its projecting end portion and the opening in the second bushing part. This connects the first bushing part to the work member and connects the second bushing part to the projecting end portion of the tubular section of the first bushing part, such that the second bushing part functions as a second flange at the end of the first bushing part that is opposite the flange section of the first bushing part.

The tubular section of the bushing part may be radially expanded an amount sufficient to also introduce fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member immediately around the opening in the work member.

The cold expansion of the tubular section, both for connecting it to the work member and the second bushing part, and for introducing fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member, may be accomplished by moving a tapered mandrel axially through the first bushing part, and

providing the mandrel with a large diameter end portion that is sized such that when it moves through the tubular section of the first bushing part it will radially expand the tubular section of the first bushing part to the extent needed.

5 According to another aspect of the invention, a first bushing part is provided that has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of its tubular section. The tubular section of the first bushing part is provided with an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the diameter of the opening in the work member. The second bushing part is provided that has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of its tubular section. The tubular section of the second bushing part is provided with an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the inside diameter of the tubular section of the first bushing part. The tubular section of the first bushing part is moved into and through the opening in the work member, from the first side of the work member. It is moved axially until its flange section is substantially against the first side of the work member. Then, the tubular section of the second bushing part is inserted into the tubular section of the first bushing part, from the second side of the work member. The second bushing part is then moved axially to place its flange section substantially against the second side of the work member. The tubular sections of the first and second bushing parts are radially and circumferentially expanded together, an amount sufficient to provide a tight interference fit of the tubular section of the second bushing part in the tubular section of the first bushing part, and a tight interference fit of the tubular section of the first bushing part in the opening in the work member. They also may be radially and circumferentially expanded an amount sufficient to also introduce fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member immediately around the opening in the work member.

35 According to a further aspect of the invention, a first bushing part is provided that has a tubular section and a radial flange at one end of the tubular section. The tubular

section has an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the diameter of the opening in the work member and a length that is only a portion of the length of the opening in the work member. A second bushing part is provided that has a tubular section and a radial flange at one end of the tubular section. This tubular section also has an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the diameter of the opening in the work member and a length that is less than the length of the opening in the work member. The tubular section of the first bushing part is inserted into the opening in the work member, from the first side of the work member, and is moved axially to place the flange section of the first bushing part against the first side of the work member. The tubular section of the second bushing part is inserted into the opening in the work member, from the second side of the work member, and is moved axially until the flange section of the second bushing part is against the second side of the work member. Then, the two tubular sections are radially and circumferentially expanded an amount sufficient to provide a tight interference fit between them and the opening in the work member, for connecting the first and second bushing parts to the work member. The cold expansion may also be sufficient to introduce fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member immediately around a through opening in the work member.

According to yet another aspect of the invention, a tubular first bushing part is provided that has an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the diameter of the opening in the work member and a length substantially corresponding to the length of the opening in the work member. A second bushing part is provided that has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of the tubular section. The tubular section of the second bushing part has an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the inside diameter of the first bushing part and a length that is a portion of the length of the first bushing part. A third bushing part is provided. It has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of the tubular section. The tubular section of the third

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bushing part also has an outside diameter substantially conforming to the inside diameter of the first bushing part and a length that is a portion of the length of the first bushing part. The first bushing part is inserted into the opening in the work member. Then, the tubular section of the second bushing part is inserted into the first bushing part, from the first side of the work member. The second bushing part is moved axially until its flange section is against the first side of the work member. Next, the tubular section of the third bushing part is inserted into the first bushing part, from the second side of the work member. The third bushing part is moved axially until its flange section is against the second side of the work member. Then, the first bushing part and the tubular sections of the second and third bushing parts are radially expanded together an amount sufficient to provide a tight interference fit between the first bushing part and the opening in the work member and between the tubular sections of the second and third bushing parts and the first bushing part. The bushing parts are expanded circumferentially an amount sufficient to connect the second and third bushing parts to the first bushing part and connect the first bushing part to the work member. They also may be radially expanded an amount sufficient to introduce fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member substantially surrounding the through opening in the work member.

Other objects, advantages and features of the invention will become apparent from the description of the best mode set forth below, from the drawings, from the claims and from the principles that are embodied in the specific structures that are illustrated and described.

Brief Description of the Several Views of the Drawing

Like reference numerals are used to designate like parts throughout the several views of the drawing, and:

Fig. 1 is an exploded pictorial view of prior art tooling for installing a tubular bushing in an opening in a work member;

Fig. 2 is a pictorial view in longitudinal section of two flanged bushing that forms a part of the present invention;

Fig. 3 is a view like Fig. 2, showing a second two flanged bushing that is a part of the present invention;

Fig. 4 is a view like Figs. 2 and 3, showing a third two flanged bushing that is a part of the invention;

Fig. 5 is a view like Figs. 2-4 showing a fourth two flanged bushing that is a part of the present invention;

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary sectional view showing the tooling of Fig. 1 being used to install a bushing of the type shown by Fig. 2, such view showing a first bushing part having a tubular portion that is in an opening in the wall and a radial flange at one end that is against a first side of the wall, and a second bushing part in the form of an annular member surrounding an end part of the tubular portion of the first bushing part that projects outwardly of the opening, beyond the second side of the work member, and such view showing a mandrel in an extended position within the tubular portion of the first bushing part;

Fig. 7 is a view like Fig. 6 but showing the mandrel being retracted and showing an enlarged end portion of the mandrel radially expanding the tubular portion of the first bushing part as it moves through it;

Fig. 8 is a view like Figs. 6 and 7, showing the mandrel in a retracted position and the nose piece of the puller tool being moved away from the installed bushing;

Fig. 9 is a view like Fig. 7, but showing the tooling being used to install a bushing of the type shown by Fig. 3;

Fig. 10 is a view like Figs. 7 and 9, but showing the tooling being used to install a bushing of the type shown by Fig. 4;

Fig. 11 is a view like Figs. 7, 9 and 10 but showing the tooling being used to install a bushing of the type shown by Fig. 5;

Fig. 12 is a longitudinal sectional view showing a bushing of the type shown in Fig. 2 installed in an opening in a work member;

Fig. 13 is a view like Fig. 12, but showing a bushing of the type shown by Fig. 3;

Fig. 14 is a view like Figs. 12 and 13, but showing a bushing of a type shown by Fig. 4;

Fig. 15 is a view like Figs. 12-14, but showing a bushing of the type shown by Fig. 5;

Fig. 16 is an enlarged scale fragmentary view of an upper central portion of Fig. 15, such view showing that the bushing end parts may have concentric lapping portions where they meet; and

Fig. 17 is a view like Fig. 16, but of the upper central region of Fig. 14, such view showing that the end parts of the bushing can have concentric lapping portions where they meet, the same as shown in Fig. 16.

Detailed Description of the Invention

Fig. 1 shows prior art tooling for installing a prior art bushing 10. The tooling includes a puller 12 that includes a nose piece 14 having a forward end surface 16 and a mandrel receiving opening 18. In this system, the mandrel M includes a small diameter inner end portion 20 that extends into the puller 12 via the opening 18. It further includes a bushing receiving central portion 22 and an enlarged end portion 24. In this system, it is necessary to slide the bushing 10 onto the mandrel from the smaller end of the mandrel M and then insert the mandrel into the puller and connect it to a piston that is inside the puller 12. This installation of the mandrel M is shown by the aforementioned U.S. Patents Nos. 4,809,420 and 5,433,100. Reference is made to Patent No. 5,433,100 for a more complete description and disclosure of the mandrel and puller assembly.

Figs. 2, 6-8 and 12 disclose a first embodiment of the double flanged bushings of the present invention. This bushing 25 is composed of a first bushing part 26 and a second bushing part 28. Bushing part 26 comprises a tubular section 30 and a radial flange section 32. Flange section 32 is connected to one end of the tubular section 30. Tubular section 26 extends axially and radial flange section 32 extends radially. Bushing

part 28 is a radial member 34 that includes a center opening 36. Preferably, but not necessarily, the radial length of member 34 substantially equals the radial length of flange section 32 measured from the outside diameter of the tubular section 30.

A through opening 38 is provided in a work member 40 to receive the bushing 25. An initial opening 38 is formed by use of a drill. The drilled opening is then reamed to provide a desired starting diameter. After reaming, the starting diameter is verified by use of a hole-diameter gauge. If the opening 38 is oversized, it must be reworked to provide it with a proper slightly larger diameter. An appropriate primer may be applied to the opening 38.

Figs. 6-8 show the bushing 28 in the process of being installed into the opening 38 in a work member 40, shown in the form of a structural wall 40. The tubular section 30 of bushing part 26 has an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the diameter of opening 38. Tubular section 30 has a length that is slightly longer than the length of the opening 38, so as to provide it with an end portion 42 that projects axially outwardly from the second wall 44 of the member 40 when the flange 32 is against the first wall 46 of the member 40. The opening 36 in member 34 has a diameter substantially corresponding to the outside diameter of end part tubular section 30. End portion 42 has a length substantially corresponding to the thickness of the member 34.

As shown by Fig. 6, the tubular section 30 of member 26 is inserted into the opening 38, from the first side of the member 40. It is moved axially through the opening 38 until the radial flange 32 contacts sidewall 48. When this happens, the end portion 42 of tubular section 30 projects axially outwardly of the opening 30, beyond the second surface 44. It may be desirable to apply a sealant to the inwardly side of the flange 32. Next, the second bushing part 28 is installed on this end portion 42. Bushing part 28 is moved towards the end portion 42 until the end portion 42 is inside the opening 36. It might be desirable to apply a sealant to the inward surface of

bushing part 28. Then, the mandrel M is inserted through the tubular section 30, from the first side of the member 40. Its inner end portion 20 is connected to a piston inside of the puller 12, such as is disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,433,100, with reference to Figs. 20 and 21 of that patent. Following connection of the mandrel M to the puller 12, mandrel section 22 is inside the tubular section 30 and the enlarged end portion 24 of the mandrel M is spaced from the first side 46 of member 40. The surface 16 on nose piece 14 is positioned against member 34 such that member 34 is clamped between surface 16 and surface 44. Then, the puller 12 is operated to retract the mandrel M and pull it through the tubular section 30.

Fig. 7 shows the mandrel M in the process of being retracted and shows its enlarged end portion 24 in the process of stretching and enlarging tubular section 30 both radially and circumferentially as it moves through tubular section 30. During this movement, the drag of the mandrel head 24 on the tubular section 30 pulls the flange 32 of bushing part 26 tight against surface 26. A reaction to the pulling force moves the nose piece 14 forwardly to place its forward surface 16 into tight contact with the radial member 34. Thus, movement of the mandrel M pulls flange 32 into tight contact with surface 46 and pushes the member 34 into tight contact with surface 44. At the same time, the tubular section 30 is expanded to make a tight interference fit with the sidewall of opening 38. As the enlarged portion 22 of the mandrel M moves through the end portion 42 of tubular section 38, it radially and circumferentially expands the end portion 42, causing a tight interference fit between it and the sidewall of opening 36 in member 34.

Fig. 8 shows the mandrel M fully retracted within the nose piece 14 of the puller 12. The end portion 25 of the mandrel M has been moved entirely through the tubular section 30. As a result, the puller 12 and mandrel M are freely movable away from the installed bushing 26, 28. Fig. 8 shows an axial space 48 starting to form between side surface 44 of member 40 and

end surface 16 of nose piece 14. It further shows the bushing parts 26,28 installed within the opening 18. The installed bushing parts 26, 28, are also shown in Fig. 12, with the puller 12 having been moved away from the work member 40.

Following its installation, the inside surface of the tubular section 30 might be slightly tapered. In that case the opening in tubular section 30 may be reamed to a desired inside diameter and to remove lubricant residual. The lubricant residual may be present because it is common practice to use a lubricant between a mandrel M and a bushing through which the mandrel M is moved.

Movement of the mandrel M through the bushing 25 expands the tubular section 30 beyond elastic expansion and into plastic expansion. That is, the material is expanded a sufficient amount that it will assume and retain a new diameter.

Figs. 3, 9 and 13 show another form of two part bushing 50. A first bushing part 52 has a tubular section 54 and a radial flange section 56 at one end of the tubular section 54. As shown by Figs. 9 and 13, the tubular section 54 has an outside diameter substantially conforming to the opening 38 in the work member 40. Tubular section 54 has a length measured from the inside of flange section 56 to its opposite end that substantially corresponds to the length of the opening 38. Bushing part 58 has a tubular section 60 and a radial flange section 62 connected to one end of the tubular section 60. Tubular section 60 has an outside diameter substantially conforming to the inside diameter of tubular section 54. It has a length substantially conforming to the length of the opening in tubular section 54.

The opening 38 is formed and prepared in the manner described above. Primer may be applied to the inside of the opening 38. Sealant may be applied to the inside surfaces of the flanges 56, 62 of the bushing 50. The bushing 50 is installed in the following manner. The tubular section 54 of bushing part 52 is inserted into the opening 38 in the work member 40, from the first side of the work member 40. It is

then pushed axially inwardly until the inner surface of flange section 56 contacts the side surface 46 on the work member 40. Then, the tubular section 60 of the bushing part 58 is installed into the opening in bushing section 54, from the second side of the work member. It is moved inwardly until the inner surface of flange section 62 contacts the sidewall 44 of work member 40. Next, as shown by Fig. 9, the mandrel M and puller 12 are used to radially and circumferentially expand the two tubular sections 54, 60. The mandrel M is installed in the manner described above in connection with Figs. 6-8 and a lubricant is used between it and the bushing 50. It is then pulled axially into the puller 12 so as to move its enlarged end portion 24 axially through tubular section 60, as shown in Fig. 9. As it moves, the mandrel head 24 radially and circumferentially expands both tubular section 60 and tubular section 54. This expansion makes a tight interference fit between tubular section 54 and the sidewall of opening 38 and makes a tight interference fit of tubular section 60 within tubular section 54. This connects tubular portion 54 to the sidewall of opening 38 and connects tubular portion 60 to tubular portion 54. As can be seen from Fig. 9, movement of the mandrel M through the tubular section 54 applies a drag force on the bushing part 52 that pulls the flange section 56 into tight contact with the wall 46 of work member 40. The end surface 16 of nose piece 14 is pressed by reaction forces tightly against flange section 62, moving flange section 62 into tight engagement with sidewall 44 of work member 40.

Figs. 4, 10 and 14 disclose a third embodiment of the bushing. This bushing 66 has three parts. A tubular first bushing part 68 has an outside diameter and a length that correspond to the diameter and length of opening 38 in work member 40. The second bushing part 70 has a tubular section 72 and a radial flange section 74 at one end of the tubular section 72. It has an outside diameter substantially conforming to the inside diameter of bushing part 68. It has a length that is shorter than the opening 38 in work member 40. The third bushing part 76 has a tubular section 78 and a radial

flange section 80 at one end of the tubular section 78. Preferably, bushing parts 70, 76 are alike. Preferably also, the tubular sections 72, 78 are substantially the length of tubular section 68 and the opening 38 in the work member 40.

5 Bushing 66 is installed in the following manner. Firstly, bushing part 68 is placed in the opening 38 in work member 40. Then, tubular section 72 of bushing part 70 is inserted into the bushing part 68 from the first side of the work member 40. Bushing part 76 is inserted into the bushing part 68 from the
10 opposite side of the work member. The bushing parts 70, 76 are moved toward each other until radial flange 74 is substantially against side surface 46 and radial flange 80 is substantially against side surface 44. Then, the mandrel M and the puller 12 are used in a manner described above in connection with the first two embodiments. Axial movement of the enlarged end
15 portion 24 of the mandrel M through the bushing parts 68, 70 radially and circumferentially expands tubular sections 72, 78, 68. As a result, bushing part 68 is moved into a tight interference fit with the sidewall of opening 38. Tubular sections 72, 78 and bushing part 70, 78 are moved into a tight interference fit with bushing part 68. Flange section 74 is
20 pulled into tight contact with side surface 46 and flange section 80 is pushed into tight contact with side surface 44. The expansion connects bushing part 68 to the side surface of opening 38 and connects tubular sections 72, 78 of bushing parts 70, 76 to bushing part 68. Tubular sections 72, 78 may have concentric overlapping portions where they meet. This is shown by Fig. 17. End portion 72' is shown to concentrically surround end portion 78'.

30 Figs. 5, 8 and 15 show a fourth embodiment of the bushing. This bushing 86 is composed of two bushing parts 88, 90 which are preferably identical in construction. Bushing part 88 has a tubular section 92 and a radial flange section 94 that is connected to one end of the tubular section 92. Bushing part
35 90 has a tubular section 96 and a radial flange section 98 that is connected to one end of the tubular section 96. The outside diameters of the tubular sections 92, 98 substantially conform

to the diameter of the opening 38 in the work member 40. The tubular sections 92, 96 are both shorter than the opening 38 but, preferably, their combined lengths substantially equal the length of the opening 38 (Fig. 15). The tubular sections 92, 96 may have concentric end portions that form a lap joint where they meet. End part 92' concentrically surrounds end part 96'.

The bushing 86 is installed in the following manner. The tubular sections 92, 96 are either installed separately or together into the opening 38 from opposite sides of the work member. The bushing parts 86, 90 are moved axially together until flange section 94 substantially contacts sidewall 46 and flange section 98 substantially contacts side surface 44. Then, the mandrel 20 and the puller 12 are used in the manner described above for radially and circumferentially expanding the tubular sections 92, 98 in the opening 38. As previously described, axial movement of the mandrel 20 through the tubular sections of the bushing acts to pull flange section 94 against sidewall 46 and push flange section 98 against sidewall 44.

Preferably, the installation of bushings 50, 66, 86 includes radially and circumferentially expanding the tubular sections of the bushing parts an amount sufficient to introduce fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member immediately around the opening 38 in the work member 40.

The various bushing parts that have been described can be made from any suitable metal that has to date been used for making bushings and from new materials that might be developed for use in making bushings, or for use in making other structures but suitable for use in making bushings. Typical examples are bronze, bronze alloys, brass, brass alloys, aluminum, aluminum-nickel-bronze, copper beryllium, stainless steels and Inconel and other high temperature engine alloys, alloys, and carbon steels, etc. The work member 40 may be a structural wall or it may be some other structural member. It may be made from metal or composite materials.

The illustrated embodiments are only examples of the present invention and, therefore, are non-limitive. It is to

What is claimed is:

1. In combination:

a work member including first and second sides and a cylindrical opening extending through the work member between the two sides; and

a bushing comprising:

a tubular center portion within the cylindrical opening;

a first radial flange connected to the tubular center portion of the bushing and extending radially outwardly therefrom in contact with the first side of said work member;

a second radial flange connected to the tubular center portion of the bushing and extending radially outwardly therefrom in contact with the second side of said work member; and

wherein said tubular center portion of said bushing is radially expanded in said cylindrical opening to such an extent that it makes a tight interference fit within the opening and connects the bushing to the work member.

2. The combination of claim 1, wherein the tubular center portion of the bushing is a single continuous tubular member that is connected at one end to the first flange and extends from said first flange through the opening in the work member and includes a second end portion that extends further axially outwardly beyond the second side of the work member; wherein the second flange is a radial member having a center opening in which the end part of the single continuous tubular member is received; and wherein the single continuous tubular member is radially expanded in the center opening of the second flange to such an extent that it makes a tight interference fit with the opening in the second flange and connects the second flange to said continuous tubular member.

3. The combination of claim 1, wherein said bushing is composed of a first part that includes the first flange and a first tubular member that is connected to the first flange and

5 a second part that includes the second flange and a second tubular member that connected to the second flange; and wherein the first and second tubular members are both within the cylindrical through opening in the member and together form at least a part of the central portion of the bushing.

5 4. The combination of claim 3, wherein the first tubular member extends from the first flange through the cylindrical through opening in the work member and has a second end that is contiguous the second flange; and wherein the second tubular member extends from the second flange through the first tubular member and has a second end that is contiguous the first flange.

5 5. The combination of claim 3, wherein the first tubular member extends from the first flange into and partially through the cylindrical through opening in the work member and the second tubular member extends from the second flange into and partially through the cylindrical through opening in the work member.

6. The combination of claim 5, wherein the first and second tubular members are coaxial and have outer surfaces that make the tight interference fit with the cylindrical through opening in the work member.

5 7. The combination of claim 5, wherein the first and second tubular members are coaxial and are surrounded by a third tubular member and the first, second and third tubular members together form the tubular center portion of the bushing.

5 8. The combination of claim 7, wherein the third tubular member makes a tight interference fit with the cylindrical through opening in the work member and the first and second tubular members make tight interference fits with the third tubular member.

9. A method, comprising:

providing a work member having a first side and an opposite second side;

providing a cylindrical through opening in said work member that extends between said first and second sides;

providing a first bushing part that has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of the tubular section;

providing the tubular section of the first bushing part with an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the diameter of the through opening in said work member;

inserting the tubular section of the first bushing part into the through opening in said work member, from the first side of the work member, and moving said first bushing part axial to place the flange section against the first side of the work member;

sizing the tubular section of the first bushing part such that when the flange section is against the first side of the work member it has an end portion that projects axially outwardly beyond the second side of the work member;

providing a second bushing part that extends radially and includes a center opening that is sized to snugly receive the projecting end portion of the tubular section of the first bushing part;

positioning the second bushing part on the projecting end portion of the tubular section of the first bushing part and moving it substantially against the second side of the work member; and

radially expanding the tubular section of the first bushing part an amount sufficient to provide a tight interference fit between it and the through opening in the work member and between its projecting end portion and the opening in the second bushing part, so as to connect the first bushing part to the work member and connect the second bushing part to the projecting end portion of the tubular section of the first bushing part, such that the second bushing part functions as a second flange at the end of the first bushing part opposite the first flange section.

10. The method of claim 9, comprising radially expanding the tubular section of the first bushing part an amount sufficient to introduce fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member immediately around the through opening in the work member.

11. The method of claim 9, comprising providing a elongated mandrel having a small diameter portion sized to fit into the tubular section of the first bushing part and a large diameter portion; and moving said mandrel axially through the tubular section of the first bushing part, small diameter portion first, and sizing said large diameter portion of the mandrel so that as it moves through the tubular section of the first bushing part it will radially expand the tubular section of the first bushing part to provide said tight interference fit.

12. A method, comprising:

providing a work member having a first side and an opposite second side;

providing a cylindrical through opening in said work member that extends between said first and second sides;

providing a first bushing part that has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of the tubular section;

providing the tubular section of the first bushing part with an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the diameter of the through opening in said work member;

providing a second bushing part that has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of the tubular section;

providing the tubular section of the second bushing part with an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the inside diameter of the tubular section of the first bushing part;

inserting the tubular section of the first bushing part into the through opening in said work member, from the first side of the work member, and moving said first bushing part

axially to place its flange section substantially against the first side of the work member;

inserting the tubular section of the second bushing part into the tubular section of the first bushing part, from the second side of the work member, and moving said second bushing part axially to place its flange section substantially against the second side of the work member; and

radially expanding the tubular sections of the first and second bushing parts an amount sufficient to provide a tight interference fit of the tubular section of the second bushing part in the tubular section of the first bushing part, and a tight interference fit of the tubular section of the first bushing part in the through opening in the work member, such that the first and second bushing parts are connected together and to the work member.

13. The method of claim 12, comprising radially expanding the tubular sections of the first and second bushing parts an amount sufficient to introduce fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member immediately around the through opening in the work member.

14. The method of claim 12, comprising providing a mandrel having a small diameter portion sized to fit into the tubular section of the second bushing part and a large diameter portion and moving said mandrel axially through the tubular section of the second bushing part, small diameter portion first, and sizing the large diameter portion of the mandrel so that when it is moved through the tubular section of the second bushing part it will radially expand the tubular sections of the first and second bushing parts, to provide said tight interference fit of the tubular section of the second bushing part inside the tubular section of the first bushing part and the tubular section of the first bushing part in the through opening in the workpiece.

15. A method, comprising:

providing a work member having a first side and an opposite second side;

providing a cylindrical through opening in said work member that extends between said first and second sides;

providing a first bushing part that has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of the tubular section;

providing the tubular section of the first bushing part with an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the diameter of the through opening in said work member;

providing the tubular section of the first bushing part with a length that is a portion of the length of the through opening in the work member;

inserting the tubular section of the first bushing part into the through opening of said work member, from the first side of the work member, and moving said first bushing part axially to place its flange section against the first side of the work member;

providing a second bushing part that has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of the tubular section;

providing the tubular section of the second bushing part with an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the diameter of the through opening in said work member;

providing the tubular section of the second bushing part with a length that will enable its placement in the remainder of the through opening of the work member with its radial flange against the second side of the work member;

inserting the tubular section of the second bushing part into the through opening in said work member, from the second side of the work member, and moving said second bushing part axially to place its flange section against the second side of the work member; and

radially expanding the tubular sections of the first and second bushing parts an amount sufficient to provide a tight interference fit between them and the through opening in the work member, so as to connect the first and second bushing parts to the work member.

16. The method of claim 15, comprising radially expanding the tubular sections of the first and second bushing parts an amount sufficient to introduce fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member immediately around the through opening in the work member.

17. The method of claim 15, comprising providing a mandrel having a small diameter portion sized to fit into the tubular sections of the first and second bushing parts and a large diameter portion, and moving said mandrel axially through the tubular sections of the first and second bushing parts, small diameter portion first, and sizing said large diameter portion of the mandrel so that as it is moved through the tubular sections of the first and second bushing parts it will radially expand the tubular sections of the first and second bushing parts, to provide said tight interference fit.

18. A method, comprising:

providing a work member having a first side and an opposite second side;

providing a cylindrical through opening in said work member that extends between said first and second sides;

providing a tubular first bushing part that has an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the diameter of the opening in the work member and a length substantially corresponding to the length of the opening in the work member;

providing a second bushing part that has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of the tubular section;

providing the tubular section of the second bushing part with an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the inside diameter of the first bushing part and a length that is a portion of the length of the first bushing part;

providing a third bushing part that has a tubular section and a radial flange section at one end of the tubular section;

providing the tubular section of the third bushing part with an outside diameter substantially corresponding to the

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20 inside diameter of the first bushing part and a length that is a portion of the length of the first bushing part;

inserting the first bushing part into the through opening in the work member;

25 inserting the tubular section of the second bushing part into the first bushing part, from the first side of the work member, and moving said second bushing part axially to place its flange section against the first side of the work member;

30 inserting the tubular section of the third bushing part into the first bushing part, from the second side of the work member, and moving said third bushing part axially to place its flange section against the second side of the work member; and

radially expanding the first bushing part and the tubular sections of the second and third bushing parts an amount sufficient to provide a tight interference fit between the first and second bushing parts and the first bushing part, and between the first bushing part and the through opening in the work member, so as to connect the second and third bushing parts to the first bushing part and connect the first bushing part to the work member.

5 19. The method of claim 18, comprising radially expanding the first bushing part and the tubular sections of the second and third bushing parts, an amount sufficient to introduce fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member immediately around the through opening in the work member.

5 20. The method of claim 18, comprising providing a mandrel having a small diameter portion sized to fit into the tubular sections of the second and third bushing parts and a large diameter portion, and moving said mandrel axially through the tubular sections of the second and third bushing parts, small diameter portion first, and sizing said large diameter portion of the mandrel so that as it is moved through the tubular sections of the first and second bushing parts it will radially expand the first bushing part and the tubular sections of the

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second and third bushing parts, to provide said tight interference fit.

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ABSTRACT

Bushings (26, 52, 66, 86) are provided that have a tubular portion that fits within an opening (38) in a work member (40) and a radial flange at each end of the tubular portion. In a first embodiment, a first bushing part includes a tubular section (30) and a radial flange section (32) at one of its ends. When the tubular section (30) is within the opening (38), and the radial flange section (32) is against a first wall (46) of the work member (40), an end portion (42) of the tubular section (30) projects outwardly of the opening (38) beyond the second sidewall (44). A second bushing part (28) has an annular flange portion (34) with a center opening (36) in which the projecting end portion (42) of the tubular section (30) fits. The second bushing (52) has two bushing parts (52, 58), each of which includes a tubular section (54, 60) and a radial flange section (56, 62). Tubular section (54) is inserted into the opening (38), from one side of the work member (40) tubular section (60) is inserted into tubular section (54) from the opposite side (44) of the work member (40). The third bushing (66) has three parts. A first tubular part (68) fits into the opening (38). A tubular section (62) of a second bushing part (70) is inserted into the bushing part (68) from one side of the work member (40). A tubular section (78) of a third bushing part (76) is inserted into the bushing part (68) from the second side of the work member (40). Tubular sections (72, 78) have radial flanges (74, 80) at their outer ends. The fourth bushing (86) has two bushing parts (88, 90) which may be identical in construction. Each has a tubular section (92, 96) and a radial flange section (94, 98) at one end of its tubular section (92, 96). The tubular sections (92, 96) are inserted into the opening (38) from opposite sides of the work member (40). All bushings (25, 50, 66, 86) are installed in substantially the same way. A mandrel (M) is moved through the interior of the tubular portion of the bushing to radially and circumferentially expand the tubular portion of the bushing and move the flange sections against the opposite sidewalls of the work member (40). The tubular

portion of the bushing is radially and circumferentially expanded an amount sufficient to introduce fatigue life enhancing compressive residual stresses in the work member (40) immediately around the opening (38) in the work member (40).

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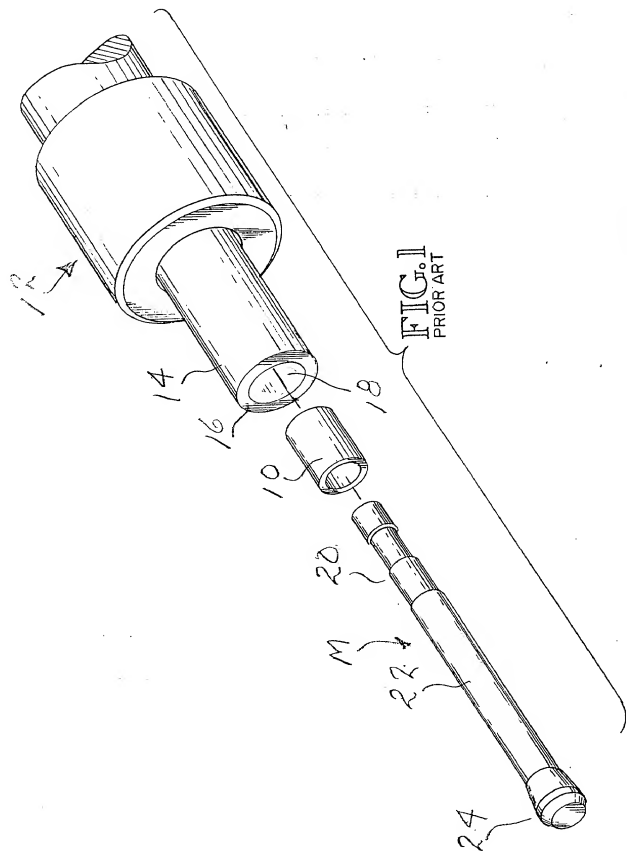
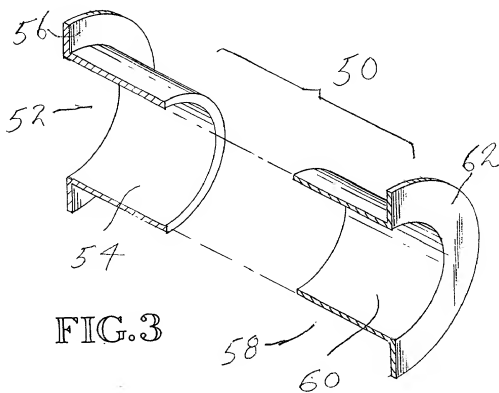
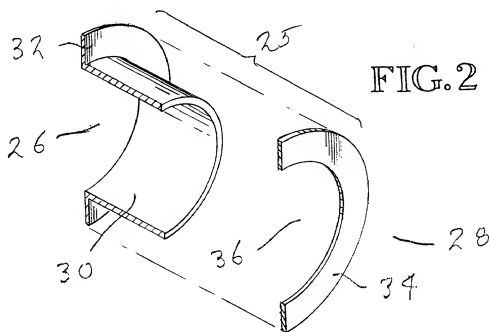


FIG. 1
PRIOR ART



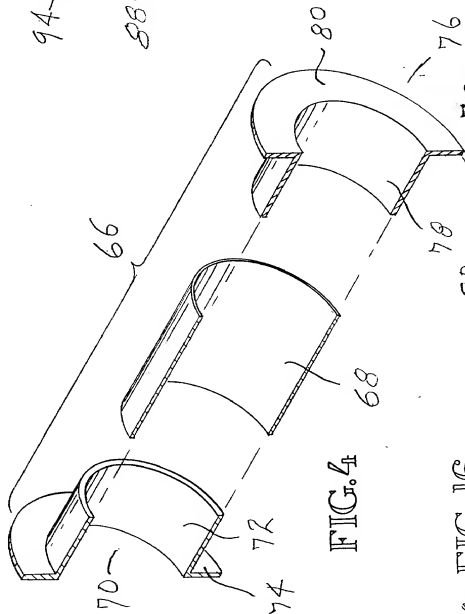


FIG. 4

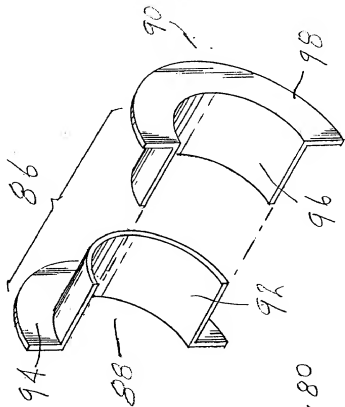


FIG. 5

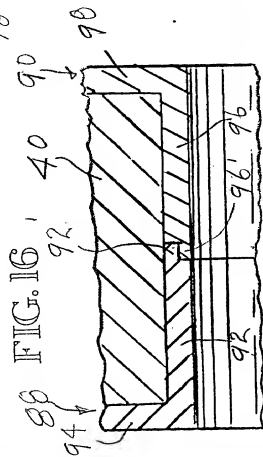


FIG. 16

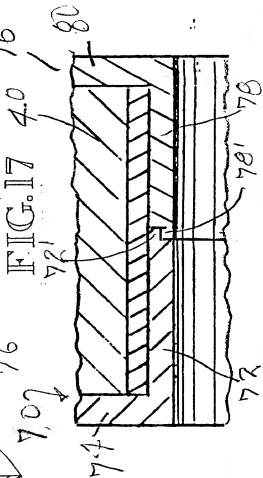
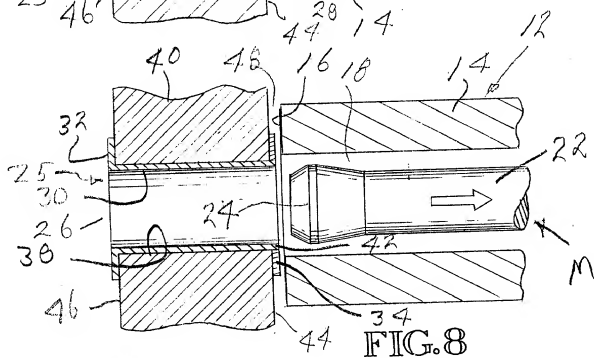
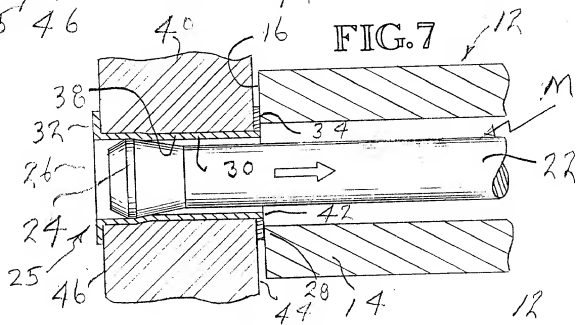
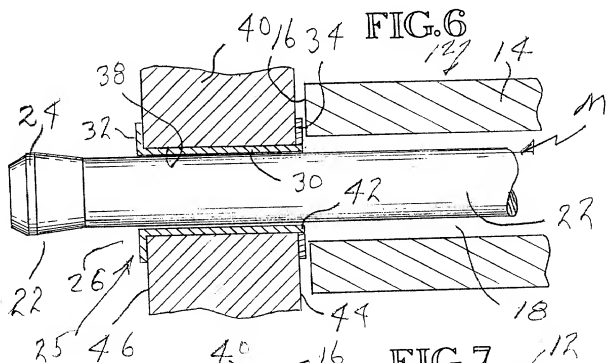


FIG. 17



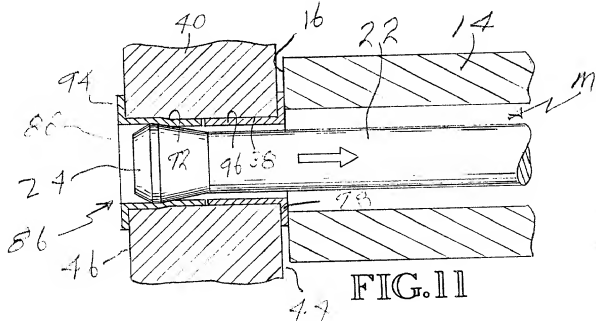
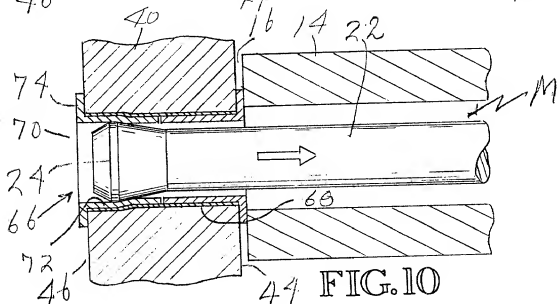
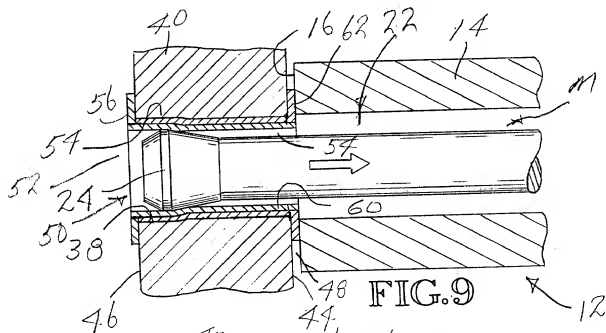


FIG. 12

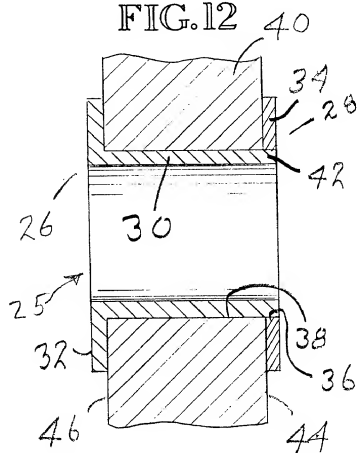


FIG. 13

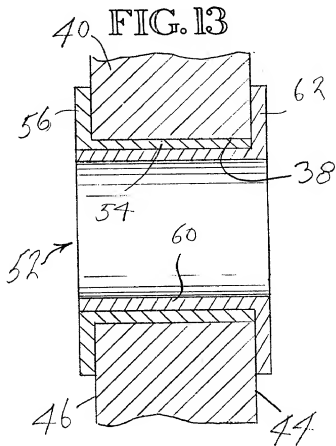


FIG. 14

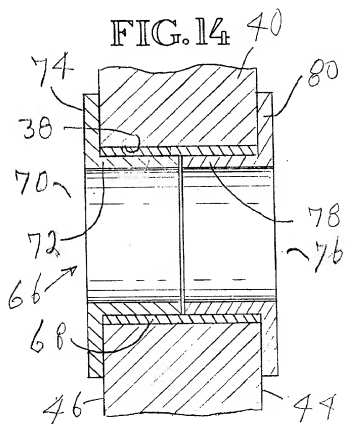
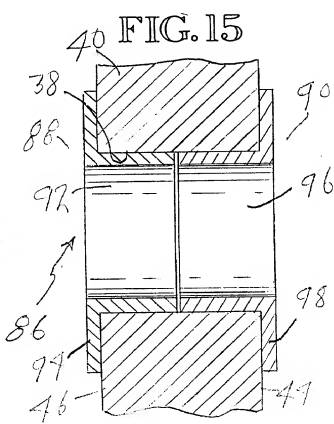


FIG. 15



Docket No.
FTI "AG"

Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

English Language Declaration

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

DOUBLE FLANGED BUSHINGS AND INSTALLATION METHODS

the specification of which

(check one)

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on _____ as United States Application No. or PCT International Application Number _____ and was amended on _____

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d) or Section 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or Section 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Not Claimed

(Number)

(Country)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

☐

(Number)

(Country)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

☐

(Number)

(Country)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

☐

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U. S. C. Section 120 of any United States application(s), or Section 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, C. F. R., Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. *(list name and registration number)*

Delbert J. Barnard, Reg. No. 20,515; and
Joan H. Pauly, Reg. No. 30,207

Send Correspondence to:

Delbert J. Barnard
Barnard & Pauly, P.S.
P.O. Box 58888, Seattle, WA 98138-1888

Direct Telephone Calls to: *(name and telephone number)*

Delbert J. Barnard (206) 246-0568

Full name of sole or first inventor William A. Skinner	
Sole or first inventor's signature	Date
Residence 4008 South 158th St. Apt. E, Seattle, WA 98188	
Citizenship USA	
Post Office Address 4008 South 158th St. Apt. E, Seattle, WA 98188	

Full name of second inventor, if any Jude H. Restis	
Second inventor's signature	Date
Residence 12025 SE 284th St, Kent, WA 98031	
Citizenship USA	
Post Office Address 12025 SE 284th St. Kent, WA 98031	

Full name of third inventor, if any Mark R. Weiss	
Third inventor's signature	Date
Residence 2117 Northeast 102nd, Seattle, WA 98125	
Citizenship USA	
Post Office Address 2117 Northeast 102nd, Seattle, WA 98125	

Full name of fourth inventor, if any	
Fourth inventor's signature	Date
Residence	
Citizenship	
Post Office Address	

Full name of fifth inventor, if any	
Fifth inventor's signature	Date
Residence	
Citizenship	
Post Office Address	

Full name of sixth inventor, if any	
Sixth inventor's signature	Date
Residence	
Citizenship	
Post Office Address	